



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Hideaki Kito et al.) Group Art Unit: 3763
Application No.: 10/519,705) Examiner: Sharon E. Kennedy
Filed: December 30, 2004) Confirmation No.: 3183
For: SYRINGE AND PREFILLED)
SYRINGE)

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Notice of Allowability issued in connection with the above-identified application is accompanied by an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

This paper is being submitted to clarify certain comments set forth in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance. In one respect, the Statement indicates that the prior art does not show a syringe comprising the ventilation means as claimed. It is understood that this comment only pertains to independent Claim 1 as this is the only independent claim reciting the ventilation means.

In addition, the Statement addresses Claims 12-16 by noting that the prior art does not show or suggest a pusher operating portion possessing an abutment portion which functions to abut the base end portion when the plunger shaft stroke length is small. These comments pertaining to Claims 12-16 contain a typographical error in that independent Claim 12 recites:

said pusher operating portion has an abutment portion
abutting on a base end portion, or a portion near said base
end portion, of said outer tube in the condition where the
length of said pusher is small.

Thus, Claim 12 refers to the abutment portion abutting on either a base end portion or a portion near such base end portion.

This paper is thus submitted to make clear that the comments in the Statement are not intended to be an accurate reflection of the subject matter recited in each of the respective independent claims and should not be understood to imply that the allowed claims recite anything different than that which the claims themselves set forth.

Should any questions arise in connection with this matter or should the Examiner disagree in any way with the comments set forth above, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

Date June 8, 2006

By: Matthew L. Schneider
Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32,814

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620